

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/493,110

Examiner

Gautam Sain

Applicant(s)

MIYATA, HIROKI

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/6/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 1/28/00 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 3/17/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1) An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Fritz Klantschi, Attorney for Applicant, Reg No. 50333 on 3/10/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

12. (Currently Amended) A composite form editing method embodied on a computer readable medium for editing form data, which is constituted of a plurality of parts forms, to be overlaid on print data, said method comprising:

a storing step, of storing composite form setting data which describes objects and a dependency relationship among these objects, wherein the objects include a page which constitutes the form data and a parts form which constitutes the page;

a displaying step, of displaying, on a display in accordance with the composite form setting data, the objects and the dependency relationship thereof as a tree which connects image objects corresponding to the objects;

a determining step, of determining a position where the image objects is dropped on the tree in accordance with an operation by an operator; and

an editing step, of editing the description of the composite form setting data in accordance with the position where the image data is dropped determined in said determining step.

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27. (Currently Amended) A composite form editing method embodied on a computer readable medium for editing form data, which is constituted of a plurality of parts forms, to be overlaid on print data, said method comprising:

a storing step, of storing composite form setting data which describes a dependency relationship among objects, wherein the objects include a page which constitutes the form data and a parts form which constitutes the page;

a displaying step, of displaying, on a display in accordance with the composite form setting data, the objects and the dependency relationship thereof as a tree which connects image objects corresponding to the objects;

a determining step, of determining a position where the image objects is dropped on the tree in accordance with an operation by an operator; and

an editing step, of editing the description of the composite form setting data in accordance with the position where the image object is dropped determined in said determining step.

### **REASON FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

While the prior art teaches storage means for storing data which describes objects and dependency relationship among these objects, display means for displaying objects and the dependency relationship as a tree which connects image objects corresponding to the objects, means for determining where the image objects is placed on the tree and editing means for editing the description of the data. Specifically, the prior art teaches a hyperlinked relational database visualization system, a method and

apparatus for displaying a double-sided graphic image and a data processing system with automated at least partial forms completion.

The prior art fails to teach, as a combination with the limitations cited in the claims, a composite form editing apparatus for editing form data, which is constituted of plurality of parts forms to be overlaid on print data comprising pages which constitute form data and parts form which constitute the page. Specifically, the prior art does not teach a tree where the name of the parts form constitute a page composing the form data described in the composite form setting data as well as a type of page indicating whether a page is subject of both side printing with respect to each page.

2. Claims 26-28 read on the FCX file (see Applicant Remarks, second paragraph).
3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gautam Sain whose telephone number is 571-272-4096. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5 EST.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on 571-272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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**SANJIV SHAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**